

NOTE ON THE MODE OF NIDIFICATION OF A SPECIES
OF *PACHYCEPHALA*, SUPPOSED TO BE *P. GILBERTII*, FROM THE INTERIOR OF N. S. WALES.

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Whilst riding across a portion of the Kilfern Station in the Western Division of the Colony, on the 24th of October last, my attention was attracted by observing the tail of a bird protruding from the upper surface of an old nest of a *Pomatostomus*, placed in a small Mulga tree, some 12 feet from the ground. As I rode beneath the tree the bird flew off, and perched on a neighbouring branch. I at once recognised it as a bird that I had met with on two or three occasions previously in my wanderings, but which was extremely rare, and which I took to be a *Pachycephala*, but to what species referable I could not say. Since then, however, I have examined the plates in Gould's Work on the "Birds of Australia," and have also carefully examined the species of *Pachycephala*, in the Sydney Museum, and am of opinion that the bird in question is *P. Gilbertii*. Having never previously come across the nest of this bird I was curious to see the eggs, though at the same time I was very doubtful about eggs being there at all, as the situation of the supposed nest was so different from that usually chosen by this family of birds. On ascending the tree I found that the bird had actually chosen that situation for its nest, but to my disappointment the bird was only building, as was evidenced by finding a newly made, somewhat cup-shaped nest within the old one of the *Pomatostomus*. On the 3rd of November, having occasion to pass within a few miles of the same place, I determined to gratify my curiosity as regarded the eggs, and made a detour for this purpose. On reaching the tree I again observed

the bird's tail projecting from the nest, and on ascending was gratified to find the nest contained three eggs ; these I took, and also the nest in its entirety, and have forwarded them to Dr. Ramsay, for exhibition. The eggs are of a light creamy white with irregular zones of spots of slate and grey dots at the larger end.